



**City of Seattle
Mayor Edward B. Murray**

January 30, 2014

The Honorable Tim Burgess
President, Seattle City Council
Seattle City Hall, 2nd Floor
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Council President Burgess:

I am pleased to transmit to the City Council the following confirmation packet for my appointment of Steve Walker as the Director of the Office of Housing.

The materials in this packet are divided into two sections:

A. Director name

This section contains Steve Walker's appointment and oath of office forms, his resume, and the press release announcing his appointment.

B. Background Checks

This section contains the Mayor's Office report on Steve Walker's background check.

Steve Walker has worked in affordable housing policy, planning and finance for nearly twenty-five years. He joined the Washington State Housing Finance Commission (WSHFC) in 1996, serving there since 2002 as the Director of the Multifamily Housing and Community Facilities Division and Director of the Housing Tax Credit Division. He has overseen the strategic development and administration of WSHFC programs, involving the issuance of approximately \$200 million of tax exempt bonds and the allocation of \$200 million in housing tax credits each year for preservation and production of affordable multifamily housing throughout Washington state. Prior to coming to WSHFC, Steve worked at the City of Seattle's Department of Housing and Human Services; the Family Emergency Shelter Coalition in the San Francisco Bay Area; and New York City's Department of Housing, Preservation and Development. Much of Steve's work has involved legislative and advocacy efforts at the federal, state, and regional levels.

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The positive impact quality, affordable housing has on mental and physical health, education, transportation, and economic stability are well documented. Steve is looking forward to bringing this perspective and a fresh set of eyes to broaden the City's housing affordability discussions. Steve received his Master of Urban Planning (MUP) from the University of Washington and received his B.A. in Urban Studies from Columbia University.

Steve's wealth of experience in affordable housing policy and financing will be an asset to the City, I urge you to confirm him.

If you have any questions about the attached materials or need additional information, please contact Uriel Ybarra of my office, at 206-684-8162, or via e-mail, at uriel.ybarra@seattle.gov.

Sincerely,



Edward B. Murray
Mayor, City of Seattle